

SAF/LLZ (Legislative Research Team)

JOHNSON, Eddie Bernice (Democrat)
Representative, 30th District, Texas
Elected 1992 to the 103rd Congress
Reelected to succeeding Congresses



BACKGROUND

Born: Waco, Texas - 3 December 1935

Home: Dallas, Texas

Marital status: Divorced - 1 child

Religion: Baptist

Education: Nurse training, Notre Dame, 1955; Texas Christian U, B.S., 1967;
Southern Methodist University, M.P.A. 1976

Military: None

Profession: Businesswoman; nurse

Political: TX House, 1972-77; TX Senate, 1986-92. Defeated Lucy Cain (R) in the Nov92 general election with 74% of the vote for the newly drawn 30th District. Reelected in 2000 with 92% of the vote and in 2002 with 74%.

Rep Johnson is a liberal who is considered a trailblazer for women and blacks and focuses on minority rights. Considered both gracious and shrewd. While in the TX Senate helped redraw the 30th District lines for the seat to which she was subsequently elected. (Politics in America, 2004) During the campaign for the US House, stated she wanted to address health care issues, using her experience as a health care professional and administrator. Education and the environment are other high priorities. Appeared before the Base Closing Commission to speak against the proposed closure of the Dallas NAS (Dallas Times, 17Jun93).

Complained that Africa had been neglected too long in our nation's foreign policy efforts. In the 104th Congress, urged President Clinton to support the B-2 bomber as a means of meeting the nation's power projection needs, and also to support the Northrop Grumman plant in her district and the jobs of 6,000 constituents. (Inside the Air Force, 26Jan96). In the 106th Congress, paid tribute to the successful efforts of Reverend Jesse Jackson, Sr., to gain the freedom of 3 US military personnel being held as POW's by Yugoslavia. In the 107th Congress chaired the Congressional Black Caucus and is credited with moving the organization to a less confrontational posture towards businesses, reflecting her background as a small business owner. Opposed the proposal to let commercial pilots carry guns. Supported the FY03 emergency supplemental appropriations bill, particularly the \$3.7B it contained for relief to US airlines, stating "We must not force the industry to bear a disproportionate share of the direct and indirect costs of the war with Iraq."

Additional: President Carter appointed her regional director of the US Dept of Health, Education and Welfare; later served in HEW's primary health care division. When Pres Reagan was elected, she founded her own consulting firm (Eddie Bernice Johnson and Associates, 1981). Member - Airpower Caucus, Army Caucus

AF Bases: Hensley Field (ANG)

COMMITTEES

SCIENCE – Subcs on: Research (Ranking minority); Space & Aeronautics

TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE